

## **Statement by Scientific and Technological Communities (5 May 2006)**

Let me refer to the issue of Mobility of Engineers, a mechanism that is closely related to regional capacity building. Programs are under way to allow engineers chartered in a given country to practice professionally in another country, of course, under appropriate institutional agreements. Developed countries in Europe and in the Pacific-North American region have already adopted programs of this type. Also, the countries of the American Hemisphere are developing a program to create the so-called "Engineer of the Americas". These activities and examples could be considered or followed in other developing regions of the world to compensate for the lack of sufficient competent manpower and expertise needed to improve and update technologies that were imported by countries of such developing regions. This lack of manpower and expertise was an obstacle or constraint repeatedly stressed in several occasions during this week's meetings.